Development of forest villages in Madhya Pradesh

†475. SHRI PYAREALAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages alongwith total amount sanctioned for them by the Central Government, so far for development of forest villages in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) Whether the said amount has been released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) whether there is any amount left under this head, if so, what is the amount and by when it would be sanctioned and released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has accorded sanction for development of 679 forest villages out of 925 forest villages in Madhya Pradesh at a total project cost of Rs. 103.86 cr. out of which Rs.66.64 cr. has been released so far. Release of further funds to the State Government for this purpose would depend on submission of Progress Reports and Utilization Certificates, as prescribed by the Government.

Fund to achieve targetted forest cover

476. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the National Foresty Action Plan, the total requirement of funds to achieve the target of improvement and expansion of forest and tree cover in the country by 2012 is Rs.1,35,000 crores;

(b) if so, the details of amount that Government have released since the inception of the National Forestry Action in 1999, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh, year-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that allocation of money for tree plantation and forest improvement is one of the constraints to achieve 1/3rd forest and tree cover by 2012; and

(d) if so, what action plan do Government have to allocate more funds, so as, to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The National Forestry Action Programme-India 1999 envisages an estimated investment of Rs. 1,33,902.78 crores for a period of 20 years.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The expenditure of Ministry of Environment and Forests under the Forestry and Wildlife sector and National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board from 1999-2000 to 2005-2006 was Rs. 2935.23 crores. The year wise details are given in Statement-I *(See* below*)* The Ministry provides financial assistance to States for improvement and expansion of forests under various schemes. The year-wise details of funds released under major afforestation schemes (Integrated Afforestation Eco-development Project Scheme, Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project Scheme, Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forest on Usufruct Sharing Basis Scheme, Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme,and National Afforestation Programme Scheme), forest protection schemes, and wildlife schemes (Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries Scheme, Project Tiger Scheme, and Project Elephant Scheme) from 1999-2000 to 2005-06 in respect of State of Andhra Pradesh is given in Statement - II. *(See* below) In addition, State Governments also implement schemes for improvement and expansion of forests utilizing State funds and externally-aided projects. Besides, tree planting is a permissible activity in a number of schemes of other Central Government Ministries including Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(c) and (d) The present inadequacy of budget allocation for tree planting has been cited as one of the constraints in achieving target of one-third Forest and Tree Cover by the year 2012. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has mooted several initiatives to achieve the target on time which include provision of assistance for High-tech nurseries and Satellite nurseries for production of Quality Planting Material, augmentation of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) with additional component of assistance to Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs), effecting step-up in budgetary allocation, securing increased people's participation, and emphasizing augmentation of staff strength at the cutting edge level in States. Besides, promotion of tree planting on private land, including farm lands, is being ensured by advising States to rationalize the regulations relating to felling and transit of trees grown on private lands. The States have also been advised to constitute inter-departmental committee charied by Chief Secretary to involve all land-owing Departments in tree planting.

Statement—I

Sector-wise expenditure of Ministry of Environment and Forests from 1999 to 2005-06

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Sector	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
1.	Forestry and Wildlife	178.10	204.40	261.85	244.29	226.06	243.34	260.62	1618.66
2.	National Afforestation and Eco-development Board	86.45	115.10	137.41	187.27	250.45	263.57	276.32	1316.57

Statement—II

Funds released to Andhra Pradesh from 1999 to 2005-06 for Various Schemes by Ministry of Environment and Forest

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Integrated Afforestation Eco-development Project Scheme	1.50	2.47	2.28	—	—	—	—	6.25
2.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project Scheme	0.70	1.46	1.43	—	—	—	—	3.59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forest on Usufruct Sharing Basis Scheme	0.20	0.22	0.75	—	—	—	—	1.17
4.	Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme	1.19	1.68	3.18	—	—	—	—	6.05
5.	National Afforestation Programme Scheme	—	—	—	8.35	10.44	14.21	7.54	40.54
6.	Centrally-Sponsored Forest Protection Schemes	0.20	0.00	0.89	1.29	1.00	2.90	1.75	8.03
7.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries Scheme	0.87	1.86	0.89	0.83	0.89	0.71	1.04	7.09
8.	Project Tiger Scheme	0.29	0.45	0.21	0.21	0.23	0.15	0.46	2.00
9.	Project Elephant Scheme	0.12	0.46	0.31	0.53	0.55	0.48	0.60	3.05